

REMARKS

The interview with examiners Thomas A. Morrison and David Bollinger on November 30, 2005 is acknowledged with appreciation. The examiner's interview summary is accurate as to what transpired at the interview.

Claim 1 has been amended to change "a" to "at" as suggested in the office action.

Claim 1 is directed to a high capacity sheet feeder including a feed table and operably mounted on and above a sheet transport in an operable position for feeding sheets downward and back under the feed table to the transport, the sheet feeder operably mounted at hinge points allowing said sheet feeder to be hinged upwardly to a non-operable position to allow access to a sheet-transporting assembly of said transport. Claim 1 is rejected in the office action as anticipated by Dirx (U.S. Patent No. 5,996,991) or Japanese Publication No. 4-303350. As discussed at the interview neither of these references disclose a high capacity sheet feeder mounted on and above a sheet transport in an operable position for feeding sheets downward and back under the feed table to the transport as recited in claim 1. The feed paths in both Dirx and the Japanese publication are different from that of present claim 1 such that the sheet feeder, sheet transport, feed table, hinge points etc. of claim 1 are not anticipated by these references.

In view of the above, it is submitted that claim 1 is in condition for allowance and such action is, respectfully, requested. If there is any issue remaining to be resolved, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned so that resolution can be promptly effected.

It is requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response with the fee for such extensions and shortages in other fees, being charged, or any overpayment in fees being credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 10-0435 (39152-94935).

Respectfully submitted,

BARNES & THORNBURG LLP



Richard B. Lazarus

Reg. No. 48,215

Tel. No. (202) 371-6348